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VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

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PHILADELPHIA, *September* 28.

The following LETTERS *are published by order of the honourable* CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

SIR, *Head Quarters, Cambridge, August* 11, 1775.

I UNDERSTAND that the officers engaged in the cause of liberty and their country, who by the fortune of war have fallen into your hands, have been thrown indiscriminately into a common gaol, appropriated for felons; that no consideration has been had for those of the most respectable rank, when languishing with wounds and sickness; that some of them have been even amputated in this unworthy situation.

Let your opinion, sir, of the principle which actuates them be what it may, they suppose they act from the noblest of all principles, a love of freedom and their country. But political opinions, I conceive, are foreign to this point. The obligations arising from the rights of humanity, and claims of rank, are universally binding and extensive, except in case of retaliation. These, I should have hoped, would have dictated a more tender treatment of those individuals, whom chance of war had put in your power; nor can I forbear suggesting its fatal tendency to widen that unhappy breach, which you, and those ministers under whom you act, have repeatedly declared you wish to see forever closed.

My duty now makes it necessary to appr[illegible] you, that for the future I shall regulate my conduct towards those gentlemen who are, or may be, in our possession, exactly by the rule you shall observe towards those of ours now in your custody.

If severity and hardship mark the line of your conduct (painful as it may be to me) your prisoners will feel its effects; but if kindness and humanity are shewn to ours, I shall with pleasure consider those in our hands only as unfortunate, and they shall receive from me that treatment to which the unfortunate are ever entitled.

I beg to be favoured with an answer as soon as possible, and am, sir, your very humble servant, G. WASHINGTON.

His excellency general GAGE.

SIR, *Boston, August* 13, 1775.

TO the glory of civilized nations, humanity and war have been compatible; and compassion to the subdued is become almost a general system.

Britons, ever pre-eminent in mercy, have outgone common examples, and overlooked the criminal in the captive. Upon these principles, your prisoners, whose lives by the laws of the land are destined to the cord, have hitherto been treated with care and kindness, and more comfortably lodged than the king's troops in the hospitals; indiscrimisately it is true, for I acknowledge no rank that is not derived from the king.

My intelligence from your army would justify severe recrimination. I understand there are of the king's faithful subjects, taken some time since by the rebels, labouring like negro slaves to gain their daily subsistence, or reduced to the wretched alternative, to perish by famine, or take arms against their king and country. Those who have made the treatment of the prisoners in my hands, or of your other friends in Boston, a pretence for such measures, found barbarity upon falsehood.

I would willingly hope, sir, that the sentiments of liberality, which I have always believed you to possess, will be exerted to correct these misdoings. Be temperate in political disquisition, give free operation to truth, and punish those who deceive and misrepresent, and not only the effects, but the causes of this unhappy conflict, will be removed.

Should those under whose usurped authority you act controul such a disposition, and dare to call severity retaliation, to God, who knows all hearts, be the appeal for the dreadful consequences. I trust, that British soldiers, asserting the rights of the state, the laws of the land, the being of the constitution, will meet all events with becoming fortitude. They will court victory with the spirit their cause inspires, and from the same motive will find the patience of martyrs under misfortune.

Till I read your insinuations in regard to ministers, I conceived that I had acted under the king, whose wishes, it is true, as well as those of his ministers, and of every honest man, have been to see this unhappy breach forever closed; but unfortunately for both countries, those who long since projected the present crisis, and influence the councils of America, have views very distant from accommodation. I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS GAGE.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *esquire.*

SIR, *Head Quarters, Cambridge, August* 19, 1775.

I ADDRESSED you on the 11th instant, in terms which gave the fairest scope for the exercise of that humanity and politeness which were supposed to form a part of your character. I remonstrated with you on the unworthy treatment shewn to the officers and citizens of America, whom the fortune of war, chance, or a mistaken confidence, had thrown into your hands.

Whether British or American mercy, fortitude, and patience, are most pre-eminent; whether our worthy citizens, whom the hand of tyranny has forced into arms, to defend their wives, their children, and their property, or the mercenary instruments of lawless domination, avarice, and revenge, best deserve the appellation of rebels, and the punishment of that cord which your affected clemency has forborn to inflict; whether the authority under which I act is usurped, or founded upon the genuine principles of liberty, were altogether foreign to the subject. I purposely avoided all political disquisition: Nor shall I now avail myself of those advantages which the sacred cause of my country, of liberty, and human nature, give me over you; much less shall I stoop to retort an invective. But the intelligence you say you have received from our army requires a reply. I have taken time, sir, to make a strict enquiry, and find it has not the least foundation in truth. Not only your officers and soldiers have been treated with a tenderness due to fellow citizens and brethren, but even those execrable parricides, whose councils and aid have deluged their country with blood, have been protected from the fury of a justly enraged people. Far from compelling or permitting their assistance, I am embarrassed with the numbers who croud to our camp, animated with the purest principles of virtue, and love of their country. You advise me to give free operation to truth, to punish misrepresentation and falsehood. If experience stamps value upon counsel, yours must have a weight which few can claim. You best can tell how far the convulsion which has brought such ruin on both countries, and shaken the mighty empire of Britain to its foundation, may be traced to these malignant causes.

You affect, sir, to despise all ranks not derived from the same source with your own. I cannot conceive one more honourable than that which flows from the uncorrupted choice of a brave and free people, the purest source, and original fountain, of all power. Far from making it a plea for cruelty, a mind of true magnanimity, and enlarged ideas, would comprehend and respect it.

What may have been the ministerial views which have precipitated the present crisis, Lexington, Concord, and Charlestown, can best declare. May that God, to whom you then appealed, judge between America and you! Under his providence, those who influence the councils of America, and all the other inhabitants of the united colonies, at the hazard of their lives, are determined to hand down to posterity those just and invaluable privileges which they received from their ancestors.

I shall now, sir, close my correspondence with you, perhaps forever. If your officers, our prisoners, receive a treatment from me different from what I wished to shew them, they and you will remember the occasion of it. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

THOMAS GAGE, *esquire.* G. WASHINGTON.

NEW YORK, *September* 27.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Walter Livingston, *deputy commissary general, dated at* Albany, *the 20th or the 21st instant, to a gentleman in* New York.

"GENERAL Montgomery is by this time either in possession of Saint John's or defeated. He embarked with 11 or 1200 men, and a party of Canadians, who came to the Isle aux Noix to join our army; the number is not yet mentioned. Mr. Livingston, of Montreal, with a party of Canadians, attacked the king's troops, killed 12, and drove off the remainder. He has sent for some men to Isle aux Noix, and they are granted him."

Extract of a letter from the Isle aux Noix, *dated* September 17.

"I have just time to acquaint you, that tomorrow we intend to strike a decisive blow at St. John's. We have already had two skirmishes. In the first we lost 7 men, besides 6 or 7 wounded. Our enemy had 9 Indians killed on the spot, with twice as many wounded, as we are informed. The savages appear barbarous to the last degree. Not content with scalping, they dug up our dead, and mangled them in the most shocking manner. I had the pleasure to see two of them scalped, as a retaliation for their barbarity. This happened after our last action, in which none of us were hurt. An armed boat, which threw shells and grape shot briskly at us for some time, though without doing mischief, was fortunately divided by a salute from a twelve-pounder from one of our *Gondolas*. It is said there were 30 regulars in the boat, who all perished, either by the shot or in the lake. The chief obstacle we shall meet with tomorrow will be a strong schooner, which we are determined to board. She mounts 18 nine-pounders, and was launched but two days before we took possession of this island. How this enterprize will succeed, God only knows; but I still have hopes to see you, and all my friends, once more at New York."

Extract of a letter from Newport, Rhode Island, *dated* September 18.

"Tweedy's brig arrived here last evening from Boston. The captain says he left it last Monday; all things tolerable quiet; no talk of any attack on our army. That the captain of the Nautilus was broke for quitting his station in your river, and letting the soldiers clothing pass by him; he plead that he was threatened by your gallies, and that he did not think it safe to stay there alone. But all did not avail; he is succeeded by a captain Greaves, nephew to the admiral. Perhaps you may have a larger ship, or more than one. They do not seem to like your gallies. There are no more troops come as yet. They confess we are too strong for them. Captain Dean, in a sloop from your port, was brought in here yesterday by the Rose man of war."

WILLIAMSBURG.

THE August packet, arrived from London at New York, brings advices to the 1st of that month. The London Chronicle, of the 26th of July, contains general Gage's account of the battle at Bunker's Hill, in which he says he has had 19 commissioned officers killed, and 70 wounded, 16 non-commissioned officers killed, and 62 wounded, 192 privates killed, and 706 wounded. Administration, in order to amuse the people, has given out that the Americans had 5000 killed and wounded.

Extract of a letter, to a gentleman in this city, from one of the delegates from this colony to the congress.

"We have hopes here of an accommodation with Great Britain, notwithstanding the unfavourable answer his majesty has given to

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the city of London, and the order to governor Tryon for the men of war to beat down the towns if we are not quiet. The miniſtry themſelves agree that it muſt be made up, and will, in all probability, take hold of the offer made them by the congreſs in their petition. Orders are ſent, it ſeems, to Boſton, to treat the people with lenity, and to ſuffer them to remove with their effects."

This will prevent the Iroquois Canadians from answering the old Colonies

A letter from Fredericksburg, dated October 11, ſays: "I cannot abſtain from the pleaſure of communicating to you the very joyful news I have this moment received from the northward: General Schuyler, from undoubted authority, has taken Saint John's and Montreal, and is now on his march to Quebec, joined hourly by thouſands of Canadians. It is thought he will alſo ſucceed in his attack on that metropolis."

††† The printer hopes he ſhall be excuſed by all his cuſtomers for publiſhing ſo ſmall a paper this week, as the trouble of removing, and the length of time which it conſequently takes up in conveying his *materials* to a different quarter, rendered it out of his power to produce a larger. He now lives in the houſe lately occupied by Mr. Joſeph Kidd, and almoſt oppoſite to Benjamin Waller's eſquire.

We are obliged to omit a great number of ADVERTISEMENTS. They ſhall have good places in our next. The *hue and cry* after Squire will alſo be inſerted.

Under the LONDON HEAD, *of* Auguſt 1, *are the following*

ARTICLES.

They will perhaps fall onto the Hands of Gen. Schuyler

IT is ſaid that cloathing for 3000 troops (Canadians) was ſent off yeſterday, and that the ſame contractor has orders for fitting up 7000 more with all poſſible diſpatch.

We are aſſured that a ſubſidiary treaty has been entered into theſe 6 weeks paſt with a German prince for 10,000 of his troops to be tranſported to New York and Boſton by the end of Auguſt. Such tranſports as are already engaged are ordered forthwith to be victualled, and to ſail immediately to Embden. Five frigates, deſtined to reinforce the ſquadron on the coaſt of America, are to take the tranſports under their convoy. The foreign troops are to be commanded by a general of their own nation, well known for his good conduct in the laſt war.

Yeſterday ſeveral parties of marines went into the country on the recruiting ſervice.

We hear that orders are received at Portſmouth for all the marines at that port to hold themſelves in readineſs to embark for America on the ſhorteſt notice.

Yeſterday ſeveral promotions of military officers were made at St. James's, in the room of thoſe killed in America, and for the augmentation of troops which are to hold themſelves in readineſs to embark for America to reinforce the army under general Gage.

It is ſaid general Gage is recalled at his own requeſt, and that he will be ſucceeded by general Amherſt.

His majeſty in council was this day pleaſed to order that the parliament, which ſtands prorogued to Thurſday the 27th inſtant, ſhould be farther prorogued to Thurſday the 14th of September.

WANTED to the battalion of minute-men in the lower end of the *Northern Neck*, an ADJUTANT who is well acquainted with the duty of that office, agreeable to the order or directions of his majeſty in the year 1764. As this is the only officer in the minute ſervice whoſe pay will be conſtant for nine months in the year, it is hoped ſuch as are qualified will readily engage. Alſo wanted, a DRUMMER and FIFER, who can teach others the duty, to act as drum and fife-majors.------The CHAPLAIN's place to ſaid battalion is not yet engaged.

HUNTING TOUR, *September* 14, 1775.

THE lands I have for ſome time advertiſed for ſale are not as yet ſold. I will ſell them at a very low price, and give a reaſonable time of payment for part of the money. The reaſon why I have not ſold them was, that I would give no credit.

ANTHONY WINSTON.

ESSEX county, *September* 10, 1775.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, about the middle of *July* laſt, a *Virginia* born negro lad, named NED, who is about 18 years of age, and about 5 feet high; one of his hands has a large ſcar, occaſioned by its being burnt when he was a child, by which means ſome of his fingers grow together. He has a flat face and long head, which is remarkably ſharp on the top. His clothes were ſuch as is common for working negroes, and he was ſeen going down the country. Whoever will ſecure the ſaid negro, ſo that I get him again, ſhall have a reward of FORTY SHILLINGS, beſides what the law allows. tf JAMES EDMONDSON.

To be SOLD, *to the higheſt bidder, on the firſt* Tueſday *in* November *next, altogether, or in parcels, as may beſt ſuit the purchaſer,*

A TRACT of LAND, lying in the lower end of *Pittſylvania*, on *Banneſter* and *Stinking* rivers, containing 832 acres, chiefly conſiſting of fine low grounds and rich level high land. There is on it a new plantation, capable of working ſix hands to advantage, and a peach and apple orchard. Mr. *Joſeph Roberts*, who reſides near the premiſes, will ſhew the land to any perſon deſirous of purchaſing. Extenſive credit will be allowed, giving bond and approved ſecurity

8 NATHANIEL POPE.

To be SOLD, *at* Stafford, *the ſeat of the late honourable* Philip Ludwell Lee, *eſquire, in* Weſtmoreland, *on* Thurſday *the* 19*th day of* October *next,*

THE famous high blooded horſe DOTTEREL, greatly diſtinguiſhed on the turf in *England*, and in high eſtimation in this country for certainty in getting foals of beauty and form, whoſe pedigree will be ſhewn at the day of ſale. At the ſame time and place will be ſold a conſiderable number of COLTS and FILLIES, from *Dotterel*. Twelve months credit will be allowed, the purchaſers giving bond, with approved ſecurity, to the adminiſtrators; and if the money is not punctually paid when due the bonds are to carry intereſt from the date.

N. B. Five per cent. diſcount will be allowed for ready money.

THE plantation, houſe, and all convenient outhouſes, an exceeding fine peach orchard, where I now live, lately occupied by *William Goodall*, deceaſed, to be ſold. My reaſon for ſelling the ſame is, that it is inconvenient to my buſineſs. Any perſon inclinable to become a purchaſer may know the terms by applying to *William Johnſon*, who reſides in *James City* county.

STRAYED or ſtolen out of the governor's park, about a fortnight ago, a black horſe, with three white feet, has a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, a lump on his back juſt behind the ſaddle, a ſmall white ring round his neck, occaſioned by a rope, has a ſtar in his forehead, and paces eaſy. Whoever brings him to Mr. *Walter Lenox*, in *Williamſburg*, if taken ten miles from the ſaid city, ſhall have TEN SHILLINGS, and if a farther diſtance TWENTY SHILLINGS. tf JOHN HAWKINS.

RICHMOND, *Auguſt* 9, 1775.

I INTEND to leave this colony immediately. Mr. *John Barret* will collect what debts are due me on my own account, as well as what are due on our joint accounts. He will alſo pay what debts we owe. THOMAS REID.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY,

FOR the army, camp kettles, either tin or braſs, to hold about three gallons, a large quantity of ducking, or *Ruſſia* drab, for tents, oznabrigs, for hunting ſhirts, checks, coarſe white linen, or country made linen, for under ſhirts; alſo blankets and coarſe ſtockings. Any perſon who has any of the above articles for ſale will be pleaſed to inform me by letter per poſt, directed to be lodged at the poſt office, *Aylett's*.------Canteens are alſo much wanted; and it is requeſted of the reſpective committees to make immediate enquiry after thoſe taken from the magazine, and contrive them to the head quarters, not omitting thoſe that are damaged, which may be repaired.----I will alſo give ready money for any quantity of ſaltpetre, ſulphur, or lead. WILLIAM AYLETT, contractor.

*** Spades, ſhovels, and mattocks, are alſo wanted; thoſe who have them will apply as above.

To be SOLD, *to the higheſt bidder, at Mr.* Timberlake's, *in* Peterſburg, *on* Thurſday *the* 12*th inſtant* (October)

SUNDRY ARTICLES of HOUSHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE, conſiſting of beds, tables, chairs, and many other things too tedious to mention, three pair of MILLSTONES, and a parcel of old TIMBER, PLANK, &c. being part of the eſtate of Mr. *Halcott Pride*, deceaſed. Credit will be allowed the purchaſers till the 1ſt day of *April* next for all ſums exceeding twenty five ſhillings, on their giving bond, with approved ſecurity, to 2* THE EXECUTORS.

To be SOLD *by the ſubſcribers, at their ſtore, by wholeſale, at a low advance,*

ABOUT four hundred pounds ſterling value of *European* goods, conſiſting chiefly of broadcloths and trimmings, low priced friezes, ſagathies, and duroys, mens fine and felt hats, ditto worſted ſtockings, mens and womens gloves and mitts of various kinds, womens ſattin and ſilk hats and bonnets, nuns thread, fine plain and flowered lawns, plain and ſpotted ſilk gauze, a good aſſortment of tin ware, ſeveral kinds of crockery ware, pewter diſhes, baſons and plates, broad and narrow axes, ſeveral pair of ſtock cards for preparing wool for finer cards, with many more ſaleable articles.

Likewiſe a new built STOREHOUSE and GRANARY, with cellars ſlush. The ſtorehouſe is 36 feet by 18, compleatly finiſhed off, is ſo conſtructed that it can, with very little expence, be converted into a dwellinghouſe, and is very pleaſantly ſituated on the main ſtreet. There is ſpare ground ſufficient on the lot to build two other houſes on. The granary is 52 feet by 20, compleatly conſtructed for the reception of dry and wet goods, and grain. Credit will be allowed until the 25th of *April* next for one half the purchaſe money, and until the 25th of *October* following for the other half, on giving bond, with approved ſecurity, to

JACOB FAULCON and company.

COBHAM, *September* 18, 1775.

THE honourable COMMITTEE of SAFETY having appointed me commiſſary of proviſion to the two *Virginia* regiments, and inſtructed me to make my purchaſes as diffuſive as poſſible, I hereby give notice that I will attend at *Frederickſburg* on *Saturday* the 14th inſtant *(October)* at *Louiſa* courthouſe on *Tueſday* the 17th, at *Cumberland* courthouſe on *Thurſday* the 19th, at *Pride's* ordinary, on *Amelia* county, near colonel *Tabb's*, on *Saturday* the 21ſt, and at *Peterſburg* on *Tueſday* the 24th of the ſame month, in order to contract or receive propoſals for BEEF, PORK, and FLOUR, for victualling the ſaid regiments; alſo a quantity of STALLED BEEF, to be delivered at different periods, from *January* till *June* next, and a large quantity of beef and pork, over and above the quantity neceſſary for ſaid regiments, to be laid in ſtore for future contingencies. I expect every perſon who has proviſions to diſpoſe of will come with their loweſt terms, as they will probably not meet with another opportunity, and that ſuch as I am not well acquainted with will provide good ſecurity for the performance of their contracts.

*** I want to purchaſe two good WAGGONS and TEAMS.

JOHN HAWKINS.

WESTOVER, *September* 19, 1775.

IN *July* laſt the high ſheriff of *Charles City* advertiſed two negroes, MICHAEL and AARON, late my property, who broke gaol and eſcaped whilſt under ſentence of death. As I know they are daring and dangerous villains, capable of attempting the moſt horrid crimes, I hereby promiſe a reward of THREE POUNDS for each, to be paid on their being returned to the gaol of *Charles City*. *Michael* is a ditcher by trade, a handſome black fellow, about 30 years old, under the middle ſize; he is very artful, and ſpeaks fluently. *Aaron* is a blackſmith by trade, of a yellow complexion, near 20 years old, 6 feet high, and well made; he has a down look, and remarkable long fore teeth. I am informed their haunts are in *Prince George*, *Charles City*, *New Kent*, and *Hanover*.

WILLIAM BYRD.

CULPEPER county *(Virginia) September* 5, 1775.

I INTEND to leave *this* colony, in ſix or eight weeks, for *London*, not to return till *April* next. Mr. *Gabriel Jones*, of *Culpeper* county, will attend at *Spotſylvania* courts, in the abſence and behalf of 3 BENJAMIN JOHNSTON.

HANOVER town, *Auguſt* 10, 1775.

I INTEND to leave the colony for a few months, and have appointed Mr. *Richard Anderſon*, junior, my attorney during my abſence. All perſons with whom I am concerned, either as debtor or creditor, will very much oblige me by ſettling their accounts with me as ſoon as poſſible. 2 THOMAS SIMPSON.